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## Stuart Island's Turning Point

Stuart Island's Turn Point has to be one of the most striking places in the San Juan Islands. In 1983, this prominent location began marking the northern most entrance to Haro Strait. Stuart Island, named by the Wilkes Expedition in 1841, is the quintessential place to understand "Island Life". This laid-back, part-private, part-public island is a step back in time. Quaint country roads meander through the island and work their way down to old lighthouses, perfect places for catching sunsets. Our trip starts at Roche Harbor on San Juan Island and crosses Spiden Channel to Spiden Island where steep shoreline and beds of kelp abound. From there we will paddle to Prevost Harbor where we set up camp for the next few nights. Day paddles around Stuart and John's Islands are highlighted by towering honeycombed walls of Chuckanut Sandstone, abundant marine life and the occasional pod of Orcas.

**Location:** Stuart Island in the San Juan Islands, WA  
Approximately 4 miles northwest of San Juan Island

**Difficulty:** Intermediate

## 3-Day Paddles

### Itinerary:

#### Day 1

9 am - Meet at Roche Harbor, sign liability waivers, assign equipment, pack boats and safety talk

Paddle to Stuart

Lunch

Set up camp

Dinner

#### Day 2

Breakfast

Paddle around Stuart Island

Lunch

Dinner

Hike to Turn Point Lighthouse, exploration or relaxation

#### Day 3

Breakfast

Camp breakdown

Return paddle to Roche Harbor

Back by 4 pm

## 4-Day Paddles

### Itineraries:

#### Day 1

9 am - Meet at Roche Harbor, sign liability waivers, assign equipment, pack boats and safety talk

Paddle to Stuart

Lunch

Set up camp

Dinner

## **Day 2**

Breakfast

Paddle around Stuart Island

Lunch

Dinner

Hike to Turn Point Lighthouse, exploration or relaxation

## **Day 3**

Breakfast

Paddle to east end of John's Island

Lunch

Return paddle to Stuart Island

Dinner

## **Day 4**

Breakfast

Camp breakdown

Return paddle to Roche Harbor

Back by 4 pm

# Multi-Day Packing List - just a start

## Camp Goods

- Sleeping Bag (when stuffed will fit through toilet seat)
- Sleeping Pad
- Pillow Case

## Synthetic clothes for paddling (please no cotton)

- Shirt
- Shorts
- Fleece or long underwear top
- Fleece or long underwear pants
- Rain Jacket
- Rain Pants

## Camp Clothes (this is where cotton works)

- Socks
- Underwear
- Shorts
- Pants
- Shirts

## Other

- Sandals
- Walking/hiking shoes
- Sunglasses
- Sun Hat
- Dry bags
- Camera?
- Book?
- Games?

## Personals

- Tooth Brush / Paste
- Sun Screen
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# Driving Directions

**Trip Name:** Stuart Island's Turning Point

**Meeting Location:** Roche Harbor Marina

## From Seattle:

- Take I-5 N to exit 230 toward Burlington / Anacortes
- Follow WA-20 W
- Follow signs to Anacortes Ferry Terminal
- Take ferry to Friday Harbor
- Turn R on Front St from the Ferry Terminal
- Turn L on Spring St
- Turn L on 2<sup>nd</sup> St S
- 2<sup>nd</sup> St S will turn into Guard St
- Turn R on Tucker Ave
- Tucker Ave will turn into Roche Harbor Rd
- Roche Harbor Rd will eventually take you into Roche Harbor
- Park at the Roche Harbor Marina